



NEWS RELEASE

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**Sacramento City Council Approves
Transformed Mercy General Hospital/Sacred Heart Parish School
Mixed Use Project**

SACRAMENTO, CA November 28, 2007 – The Sacramento City Council approved the Mercy General Hospital/Sacred Heart Parish School Mixed Use project at its meeting last night in a 7-1 vote.

This mixed-use project has been years in the making. It began with an initial announcement by Mercy General Hospital in December 2001 following the generous donation of \$15 million by former patient Alex G. Spanos to help fund a new heart center.

In the past six years, the project has changed tremendously with extensive community and City dialogue and feedback. As a result, the transformed project that was approved Tuesday night will:

- Continue to provide excellent medical care to the region
- Continue to provide high quality education for our children in a safe environment
- Improve and increase pedestrian access
- Add green space to better transition with the surrounding neighborhood
- Create an expanded free community shuttle to light rail

“These and many other improvements and amenities make this project a genuine asset to the East

Sacramento community,” said Denny Powell, Hospital President. “The tremendous community engagement and input on this project are very much appreciated,” said Powell.

“We are very grateful to all parties who put so much time and effort into creating something truly workable for the hospital, school and community as a whole,” said Rev. Msgr. Robert Walton, Pastor of Sacred Heart Church and Parish School. “The City Council’s vote of support is most appreciated.”

The project includes a variety of elements including:

- The Alex G. Spanos Heart Center, a modern hospital building that will house Mercy General’s outstanding cardiac program
- A new school campus for the 300 students annually attending Sacred Heart Parish School
- Twenty new housing units that complement the East Sacramento community architecture
- The removal of the hospital’s East Wing, which was built in the 1950s

“We’re looking forward to the opportunity to move forward on building an updated, world class home for our world class heart program and all the patients we serve,” added Powell.

All elements of this mixed-use project received a great deal of community input and the plan has benefited from this guidance. Mercy and Sacred Heart representatives said they appreciate all of the community support and involvement that has created this excellent project and enabled its approval by the City Council. Mercy and Sacred Heart also extended appreciation to many members of the McKinley East Sacramento Neighborhood Association (MENA) and East Sacramento Improvement Association (ESIA) who provided valuable input, supported the new design of the Mercy General Hospital campus and Sacred Heart Parish School and have welcomed the improvements to the site.

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